

T O W L A W

U R B A N D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L

R E P O R T

of the

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R

O F H E A L T H

for the

Year Ended 31st December, (1955.)

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS
OF THE COUNCIL

Medical Officer of Health - Dr. G.A. MACGREGOR, M.D., D.I.H.
Sanitary Inspector - H.E. RAINE, M.C., C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946

Part 3 - Services Administered by Durham County Council.

Part 21 - Health Centres No action.


Section 22 - Care of Mothers and Young Children A Maternity and Child Welfare Centre operates in the Mechanics Institute, Tow Law, at fortnightly intervals. Attendances continue to be high in proportion to the population served.

Section 23 - Midwifery Regular visits are made by the Health Visitor.

Section 28 - Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care

Arrangements are made by the County Council to implement this section, but little need exists in your area.

Section 29 - Domestic Help Arrangements are in force and are well patronised, serving an urgent need in many instances.



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TOW LAW U.D.C.
ANNUAL REPORT - 1955

CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Population (Registrar General's Estimate - Mid Year)	3,140
Area (In Acres)	...	...	477
Number of Inhabited Houses (Mid 1955)	...	...	1,039
Rateable Value (Mid 1955)	...	...	£10,416
Product of Penny Rate	...	...	£37. 13s. 9d

VITAL STATISTICS

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>			
Legitimate	53	21	32
Illegitimate	6	2	4
	<u>59</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>36</u>
Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population	...	...	18.79
General Birth Rate (England and Wales) (Mid 1955)	...	...	15.0

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
<u>STILL-BIRTHS</u>			
Legitimate	4	3	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>
Rate per 1,000 (live and still)	...	...	20.06

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
<u>DEATHS</u>			
	34	18	16

Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population ... 10.83

Death Rate (England and Wales) ... 11.7

Deaths from Puerperal Causes

Puerperal Sepsis	...	...	Nil
Other Puerperal Causes	...	...	Nil

Deaths of Infants under one year of age

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	1	-	1
	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Legitimate	-	-	-
Illegitimate	-	-	-
	-	-	-
	-	-	-
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 births			16.95
Infantile Mortality Rate (England and Wales)	24.9
Deaths from Cancer	2
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	-
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years)	-
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	-

Table of Birth and Death Rates for the Past 6 Years

Year	Death Rate	Infantile Death Rate under 1 year	Birth Rate
1950	19.2	18.0	17.0
1951	13.5	13.4	18.3
1952	11.05	37.9	24.95
1953	17.17	28.5	22.26
1954	11.42	20.8	15.2
1955	10.83	16.95	18.79

CAUSES OF DEATHS

						<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...		-	-
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	...	-	-
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	...	-	-
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	...	-	-
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	-	-
8.	Measles	...	...	...	...	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	-	-
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	...	-	-
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus...	...	...	...	...	-	-
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...	-	-
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	...	-	-
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	...	1	1
15.	Leukaemia, aleukæmia	...	...	...	...	1	-
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	-	-
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system...	...	...	...	...	4	4
18.	Coronary disease, agina...	...	...	...	...	1	2
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	2	1
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	-	3
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	3	4
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	...	-	-
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	-	-
24.	Bronchitis...	...	...	...	...	1	-
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	1	-
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	1	-
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea...	...	...	...	...	-	-
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	-	-
29.	Hyperplasia and prostate	...	...	...	...	-	-
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	-	-
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	2	-
33.	Motor accidents	...	...	...	...	-	-
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	...	1	1
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	...	-	-
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	-	-
						<u>18</u>	<u>16</u>

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Total Cases Notified</u>	<u>Cases admitted to Hospital</u>	<u>Total Deaths</u>
Measles	46	-	-
Whooping Cough	35	-	-
Pneumonia	5	-	-
Peurperal Pyrexia	1	-	-
Scarlet Fever	2	-	-
Tuberculosis (non-P)	2	-	-
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	-	-

The following Table shows the number of cases notified and deaths recorded from Diphtheria and Scarlet fever during the past 6 years.

YEAR	DIPHTHERIA		SCARLET FEVER	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
1950	-	-	20	-
1951	-	-	10	-
1952	-	-	6	-
1953	-	-	8	-
1954	-	-	29	-
1955	-	-	2	-

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) DURING THE YEAR 1955

The following table gives the incidence of Notifiable Diseases during the year

Disease	Under 1 yr.	1 - 2 yrs	3 - 4 yrs	5 - 9 yrs.	10 - 14 yrs	15 - 24 yrs.	25 - 44 yrs.	45 - 64 yrs.	65 and Over	Total
Scarlet fever	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	2
Measles	4	15	15	11	1	-	-	-	-	46
Whooping cough	3	9	12	10	1	--	-	-	-	35
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	-	1	5
Puerperal pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1

TUBERCULOSIS

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Respiratory		Non- Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 24	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 44	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
45 - 64	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-

COMPARATIVE TUBERCULOSIS STATISTICS FOR RECENT YEARS

Year	NEW CASES						DEATHS					
	Pulmonary			Non Pulmonary			Pulmonary			Non Pulmonary		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
1950	-	2	2	1	-	1	2	-	2	-	-	-
1951	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1952	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1953	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1954	2	-	2	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
1955	-	1	1	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-

SANITARY DETAILS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30/12/55

(1) VISITS:

The following is a summary of the visits undertaken during the year :

(1) Housing (Public Health and Housing Acts)	68 visits
(2) Insufficient Sanitary Conveniences	32 "
(3) Drainage	21 "
(4) Water Supply	1 "
(5) Food Premises	21 "
(6) Shops Act	8 "
(7) Dairies	4 "
(8) Slaughterhouses	51 "
(9) Factories and Workplaces	18 "
(10) Keeping of Animals	5 "
(11) Insanitary Ashpits and Receptacles	16 "
(12) Offensive accumulations	4 "
(13) Smoke Nuisances	2 "
(14) Schools	4 "

(2) NUISANCES:

The following table shows the principal nuisances dealt with during the year by means of notices :

	No. of Informal Notices Served.	No. of Statutory Notices served	Defects Remedied after notice
Housing (Public Health & Housing Acts.	35	-	30
Insufficient Sanitary Conveniences	19	-	17
Drainage	21	-	21
Water Supply	1	-	1
Slaughterhouses	4	-	3
Factories and Workplaces	2	-	2
Keeping of Animals	1	-	1
Insanitary Ashpits and Receptacles	8	-	8
Offensive accumulations	2	-	1
Smoke Nuisances	1	-	1
Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949	17	-	17
Schools	2	-	2

(3) PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS:

During the 12 months ended 31st December, 1955, 17 inspections of dwellinghouses, shops and other buildings were made, and disinfestation treatments were carried out where necessary.

(4) SLAUGHTERHOUSES:

Regular visits have been made to the three slaughterhouses in your area, and it has been found that the satisfactory state of cleanness generally prevailing has been maintained.

(5) FOOD ETC. CONDEMNED:

During the year 2 st. 2 lb. 11oz. of miscellaneous tinned foods and loose provisions were condemned as unfit for human consumption.

(6) W.C. CONVERSIONS:

During the year 17 conversions from ash closets to the water carriage system took place, the comparative figure for 1954 being 14 conversions. There are now 370 water closets and 535 ash closets in the district.

(7) FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948:

During the year 2 premises subject to the Factories Acts were inspected. Two nuisances were found to exist and were abated after Informal action had been taken.

G.A. MACGREGOR M.D., D.H.P.

9th November, 1956.

Medical Officer of Health

